## Message Text

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**ACTION CU-04** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 USIA-15 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 INR-10

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R 281021Z JUN 74 FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4834

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 5136

EO 11652 GDS TAGS: SCUL, TU

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH IN TURKEY

- 1. ON JUNE 27, DCM TOLD MFA DIRGEN POLAFFS SOYSAL THAT, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE WAS SOMEWHAT TROUBLED BY RUMBLINGS IN AMERICAN (AND HE ASSUMED OTHER FOREIGN) ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES ABOUT GOT'S RESTRICTIVE AND PROCRASTINATING APPROACH TO APPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGN SCHOLARS TO DO RESEARCH IN TURKEY. HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT SOON BECOME A PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM.
- 2. SOYSAL REPLIED HE TOO HAD BEEN WORRIED ABOUT THIS AND INTENDED TAKE FIRST CHANCE HE GOT TO MENTION IT TO PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT WHO HE KNEW WAS CONCERNED ABOUT ALL RESTRICTIONS ON "FREEDOM OF THOUGHT". ORIGINAL RESTRICTIONS ON SCHOLARS, SAID SOYSAL, HAD BEEN DEVELOPED "IN ANOTHER ERA". IT WAS TIME TO GET RID OF THEM AND HE WAS GLAD TO BE ABLE TO TELL PRIME MINISTER THAT FOREIGN SCHOLARS WERE INDEED CHAFING.
- 3. COMMENT: NSP-CONTROLLD MINISTRY INTERIOR AND SECURITY-CONSCIOUS TGS HAVE BEEN SOURCE OF MOST SIGNIFICANT INSTANCES REFUSAL ALLOW FOREIGN SCHOLARS WORK IN TURKEY. IT IS DOUBTFUL IF SOYSAL'S AND EVEN ECEVIT'S GOOD INTENTIONS WILL OVERCOME THIS POWERFUL RESISTANCE. HOWEVER, GOT MAY BE AT LEAST CONTEMPLATING A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

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